

Message Text

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ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 PM-04 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SAJ-01

EB-07 COME-00 TRSE-00 OES-03 FMC-01 /071 W

----- 029452

R 280820Z OCT 75 ZDK
FM AMEMBASSY DACCA
TO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 8484
AMCONSUL CALCUTTA
AMEMBASSY ISLAMABAD
AMEMBASSY JIDDA
USLO PEKING

LIMITED OFFICIAL UB DACCA 5207

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, BG, IN, CH, SA

SUBJ: BDG HAJI DELEGATION

REF: NEW DELHI 14281 (NOTAL)

1. THE 33-MEMBER HAJI DELEGATION, ANNOUNCED BY THE
BDG ON OCTOBER 22, IS GOING TO MECCA, NOT TO CHINA.
DELEGATION IS HEADED BY PROF. YUSUF ALI, MINISTER
OF PLANNING, WITH SHAH MOAZZEM HOSSAIN, STATE
MINISTER OF AVIATION, TOURISM AND LAND REFORM, AS
DEPUTY LEADER. GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS INCLUDED IN
DELEGATION ARE SECRETARY OF FINANCE MINISTRY AND
PRINCIPAL INFORMATION OFFICER OF INFORMATION
MINISTRY. MOST OF OTHER MEMBERS OF TEAM ARE RELIGIOUS
LEADERS FROM VARIOUS DISTRICTS. THE DELEGATION, EX-
PECTED TO LEAVE FOR SAUDI ARABIA NOVEMBER 1, IS CHARGED
WITH LOOKING AFTER THE WELL BEING OF THE HAJIS FROM
BANGLADESH. A 10-MEMBER MEDICAL TEAM AND A FIVE-MEMBER
ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM WILL ALSO ASSIST THE PILGRIMS, THE
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FIRST GROUP OF WHICH IS EXPECTED TO LEAVE DACCA

NOVEMBER 9.

2. IN PREVIOUS YEARS, BDG WAS UNABLE TO SEND HIGH LEVEL
HAJI DELEGATION BECAUSE OF LACK OF SAUDI ARABIAN DIP-
LOMATIC RECOGNITION. THE PRESENCE OF THE PLANNING
MINISTER AND FINANCE SECRETARY IN DELEGATION, HOWEVER,
HAS LED TO SOME SPECULATION THAT THE GOVERNMENT OF
BANGLADESH MAY WISH TO MIX BUSINESS WITH RELEIGION.
BOSTER

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NNN

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06 JUL 2006

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To: NEW DELHI
Type: TE
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